

THE MAYOR'S MESSAGE

OCTOBER, 2013



Greetings! Our Town had a wonderful July 4th celebration. I want to thank all the civic organizations, people, businesses, emergency services, and staff for their excellent work that made this a huge success again this year. Many thanks to the Ruritans, the Woman's Club, and the Lions Club for providing and serving the food, as well as for all the work behind the scenes. We are grateful to Green Mountain Coffee for all the delicious beverages they served and for being great community partners with the Town.

The next big event will be the Windsor Christmas Parade on the first Saturday in December (information included in this newsletter). If you would like to help or participate, please contact Town Hall for any additional details (242-4288). The theme this year will be "The Music of Christmas".

We are excited about the completion of the renovation of a building for the much needed police station. It is on route 460 near the center of Town on the lot that was purchased for our future municipal complex beside Farmers Bank. Because of its location, the police will be able to respond very quickly and easily to any point in Town.

Sidewalks will soon be constructed to connect to the existing ones on North Court Street and extend past the new Windsor Middle School to route 258 and from there out to the Windsor Athletic Association's ball fields. These are being funded with grant money obtained by the county and will make it safer for our youth to walk in that area between the schools, the library and recreational facilities.

Thank you again for your support as we work together to make sure Windsor continues to be a fantastic place which one newspaper described us "the hidden jewel of Western Tidewater".

Your mayor,

Carita (Rita) Richardson

Up-Coming Events

- Homecoming Parade – Friday, October 11th, 5:00 p.m.
- Halloween – Thursday, October 31st, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- Police Department Open House - Saturday, November 2nd between 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- Day light savings time – Sunday, November 3rd. Just a reminder to change your clocks back one hour on this day.
- Breakfast with Santa - Saturday, December 7th, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. at the Community House
- Christmas Parade - Saturday, December 7th, 4:00 p.m.
- Tree Lighting Service - Saturday, December 7th immediately following the Christmas parade in Robinson's Park (next to the library)
- Christmas in the Country - Sunday, December 1st 12:00 Noon until 6:00 p.m., at Windsor Hardware



Windsor Police Department

Message from "Chief Vic Reynolds"



"COMMITTED TO COMMUNITY"

As many of you know, we have completed the renovations and are currently moving to the new Windsor Police Department Headquarters, which is located at 56 E. Windsor Blvd. Through years of planning and saving, we are close to the completion of this dream, and I want this building to be as much a source of pride to our residents as it is to our agency. We are planning to have an open house and community day on Saturday, November 2nd from 1PM to 5PM. Please come join us and see what we together have created for our awesome, small town. The Windsor Police Department Auxiliary Officer program will be cooking hot dogs and hamburgers, and we will have other attractions here, so please bring the whole family. I also truly want this building to be a place where all residents can come to receive professional police service and feel SAFE. I would also like to take a moment and thank Mayor Rita Richardson, Vice Mayor Wesley Garris, Councilman Clint Bryant, Councilman Durwood Scott, Councilman Greg Willis, Councilwoman Patty Flemming, Councilman Macon Edwards, Town Manager Michael Stallings, Town of Windsor Staff, Windsor Police Department Officers, and ALL of my residents here in Windsor.

Thank you for all that you have done for this agency to insure its success. Thank you for believing in me and trusting me with this responsibility. Thank you for giving me the greatest job on the planet. As I have said before and will continue to say, "We will NOT fail."

Holiday Safety Tips The holidays are approaching and with the fun and festivities also come thieves and con artists who are frequently on the prowl. Here are some tips from your Windsor Police Department to help keep your home, your car, your possessions, and your family safe. We all want our homes to reflect the joy of the season, but avoid displaying gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway. Arrange to have packages delivered to a neighbor if you're not home to receive them. Packages left on porches or doorsteps are "easy picking" for thieves. It also draws unwanted attention to your home. Consider simple outside decorations. Elaborate or large lawn pieces are often stolen. Be sure not to obscure the view from your windows. You need a clear view of your property. Always lock your home's doors and windows, even if you're only gone for a few minutes. Compact or dispose of packaging discreetly because often times, criminals will spot something you've discarded and can target you for their next burglary or theft. When leaving town, have a trusted friend or neighbor take care of your home. Notify the Windsor Police Department when you're planning an extended absence. We will issue a vacation watch or directed patrol for your home.

Keeping Your Neighborhood Safe Share these tips with your neighbors. Establish a network with your neighbors and make a plan for mutual protection and notification and remember, ALWAYS report suspicious activity. **Staying Safe While Shopping** Always lock your car and close the windows, even if you're only gone a few moments. When possible, lock all merchandise or packages in the trunk of your car. Load your packages before departing, not at the next destination. Shop with at least one partner. Have your car or house key in your hand as you approach the door. If attacked use those keys as weapons! Stay alert to your surroundings and the people around you. Look inside your car and around it as you approach. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse under your arm and keep wallets in an inside pocket. Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. Walk everywhere with a sense of purpose - show you are calm, confident and know where you are going. **Keeping Your Credit and Identity Safe** If you write checks, use only the necessary information, name, address, phone number. Never give your social security number. Safeguard your credit cards and checks as you do cash. Do not leave them in jacket pockets or sitting out in restaurants, stores or hotel rooms. Keep your purse or wallet on you. Shoulder straps should cross your body, not dangling from your shoulder. Do not lay them in a shopping basket. Be sure they are closed securely. Make a list of all your credit cards, debit cards and checks with account numbers. Keep the list in a secure place at home or safety deposit box. Notify issuers immediately if your card is lost, stolen or misused. Take your time when making a purchase. Be sure you collect your license, credit card, or check book and your receipt. Keep your receipts and reconcile your statement. Promptly report any discrepancies to the issuer. Consider Direct Deposit of your payroll or benefit checks; it's safe, convenient and prevents the theft of your checks.

ABOVE ALL, IF YOU ARE VICTIMIZED, REPORT IT TO POLICE IMMEDIATELY.

2013 Windsor Christmas Toy Drive *Because of the overwhelming need that we experienced over the last few years, we are again starting early. This year this program is going to be even tougher than before as we are already receiving requests. The Windsor Police Department will always partner with the community to meet the needs of our residents but will also accept all the help that we can get. We will soon be placing boxes throughout town. Citizens can drop off their new, unwrapped gifts so that we can get ahead of the Christmas rush. To be a part of this year's program please contact the Chief at 757-375-0083 or 757-242-6799. I am expecting this years need to be even greater than that of previous years, and as always we will rise to the occasion.*

Youth Auxiliary Program

Our Youth Auxiliary Program is available to all kids, and we want it to get bigger and better. We are currently accepting volunteers ages 10 to 17 desiring to serve their community. For details please contact Chief Reynolds at 757-375-0083 or 757-242-6799.



Distracted Driving Awareness

Already this year, tens of thousands of car crashes have been caused by people using their cell phones while driving, and I want to take this opportunity to remind our residents that texting and driving is illegal in the State of Virginia. We need to engage our young drivers in the hard conversation of, "Was that call or text really worth it?" Also, please ask yourself that question the next time you pick up your phone while behind the wheel, or when you take your eyes off the road to tend to children, pets or program the GPS.

Driving is the most dangerous activity a person does on a daily basis, and full concentration is required. Studies have shown that brains cannot effectively multi-task; instead minds shift from one task to the next. Therefore, when doing other tasks while driving, our minds are forced to split attention and are not 100% focused on the road ahead.

One of the most serious distractions is texting behind the wheel, which is illegal in Virginia. Studies have found a person texting while driving is **23 times** more likely to crash. Cell phone use is also very dangerous; research shows that people are **FOUR** times more likely to get into a crash than someone driving without distraction from the phone. And because cell phone use occurs more frequently and for longer durations than other risk behaviors, it's the #1 source of driver inattention behind the wheel. There has been no difference found in the cognitive distraction between hand-held and hands-free devices.

DRIVE SMART Virginia and the Windsor Police Department want to help raise awareness about distracted driving in order to improve the safety of Virginia's roadways. Try to avoid using your drive time as your down time, and instead focus solely on driving. Keep yourself and your family safe by making sure you always buckle up, and make sure all your passengers are properly restrained. Seat belt use is one of your best defenses against another distracted driver. Please take a minute to sign the pledge to drive distraction-free: <http://www.drivesmartva.org/projects/distracted/pledgeform2.htm>

Planning and Zoning Activities

Planning Commission Matters

The Planning Commission and Planning and Zoning Department is continuing its review of the request from the Isle of Wight Industrial Development Authority to rezone 79 acres of land at the edge of the Town on Buckhorn Road as part of the larger Phase III Shirley T. Holland Industrial Park. The request is being examined carefully due to concerns over traffic and the need for adequate sewer in the immediate area. Decisions on the request to go to Town Council should be made in the upcoming months.

The request that we reported on in July for a permanent Verizon tower on South Court Street on property near the proposed U.S. Route 460 Bypass has been tabled until October while Verizon determines whether their facilities could be placed on another tower. Decisions on this case should also be forthcoming in October.

Finally the Planning Commission is reviewing the Future Land-Use Map portion for the 2013 Comprehensive Plan. This important item will guide the development of Windsor for years to come showing where homes and businesses should be placed. Public hearings will be held by the Planning Commission and Town Council in the upcoming months.

Citizen Participation is Welcomed

The Planning Department, Planning Commission and Town Council invites any citizen that has questions or ideas about the issues facing the Town of Windsor, the requests discussed above or the future of the Town to contact Dennis Carney at either (757)242-4288 or dcarney@windsor-va.gov. It is through your input and efforts that the Town will continue to grow and prosper.

Code Compliance- Good Citizenship- Dog Owners

Dog owners are reminded that dog waste is not permitted on the Town's sidewalks and streets. This is considered an obstruction and is illegal under the Town's Code. Dog owners should make an effort to not have this happen, and if and when it occurs, the dog waste should be removed.

Come celebrate 40 years of business with the Windsor Pharmacy on October 1st thru October 4th! They will have door prizes and give away prizes for all! On Friday, October 4th, enjoy free hot dogs and many fun activities, including a bouncy house for the children!

Fall Cleanup

The Town of Windsor's fall cleanup will be **Saturday December 14, 2013**. The Town offers two special trash pickups per year. This provides you with a great opportunity to clean out your attic and garage, trim your trees, or get rid of items cluttering your yard. If you have any tree branches, please keep them less than three inches in diameter and no longer than four feet. You must bundle all branches and bag leaves or other yard trimmings. Place all items at the street by 7:00 a.m.

Our contractor will not enter your driveway or yard to get heavy items, such as appliances, and he will not make pick-ups after 11:00 a.m. because the land fill closes at noon.

Our contractor will not pick up items such as used lumber, roofing, siding, tires, paints, batteries, gas cylinders, oil, asbestos, animal carcasses, or hazardous materials.

If you have household hazard waste, you can dispose of it free of charge at the Isle of Wight Transfer Station, 13191 Foursquare Road, Smithfield on the fourth Saturday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They also take paint, pesticides, antifreeze, fuels, hobby supplies, insecticides, herbicides, paint thinners and solvents, fertilizers, swimming pool chemicals, household cleaners and household batteries. The Transfer Station on Stave Mill Road will take refrigerators and freezers. You may recycle used motor oil at both locations.

If you have any questions, you may call 961-3874.

The Windsor Knight Cheerleaders will be collecting food for the food bank at the Windsor High School Homecoming Parade and the Windsor Christmas Parade. They will also have a box at the Town Hall to drop off any perishable food items. For any further information you may contact Kim Gore @ 757-242-6491

Blackwater Library

Bonnie L. Lauver

18 Duke St. - 757-242-3046

www.blackwaterlib.org

Weekly Storytime for ages 2 - 4 Tuesdays @ 10:45 am

Book Club Selections

September - *The Son*, by Phillip Meyer

October - *And the Mountains Echoed*, by Hosseini Khaled

November - *Proof of Heaven*, by Eban Alexander

New Library Hours as of July 2013

Monday 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Tuesday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Wednesday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Thursday 1 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday - Closed

Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sunday - Closed

Visit the library for books, magazines, music, DVDs, ebooks, Internet, and FREE Wi-Fi!



Grass on Sidewalks and Roads

Recently we have been receiving complaints about people cutting grass and leaving the clippings on the sidewalks or in the roads. As you can assume, this poses a safety hazard for those individuals that walk on the sidewalks or on the edge of the roads where no sidewalk is available. Town Code does prohibit anyone from placing debris on the roads or sidewalks within the Town. We ask that you please keep our sidewalks and roads clear of any debris by blowing your grass clippings away from the roads and sidewalks. We thank you for your cooperation in keeping Windsor a safe and beautiful community.

Recycle with Ease

Recycling has been made easy for Windsor residents. Recycling bins are located at Windsor Middle School for your convenience. Residents cannot put food in their trash bags to recycle, but anything else that is acceptable for your normal trash pick up can be put in the same bag. No separation of different types of items is needed. If you would like curb side recycling you may contact MOODY'S A.V.E.S. @ 757-357-9997.

Dear Boys & Girls,

Hurray! Windsor will be having their 2nd annual Christmas Parade on December 7th, 2013. This is the first Saturday in December. I am hoping all you good boys and girls will come and see me. Better yet, be in the parade. You will find the registration form enclosed

in this newsletter! HO! HO! HO!

Sincerely,

Santa Clause

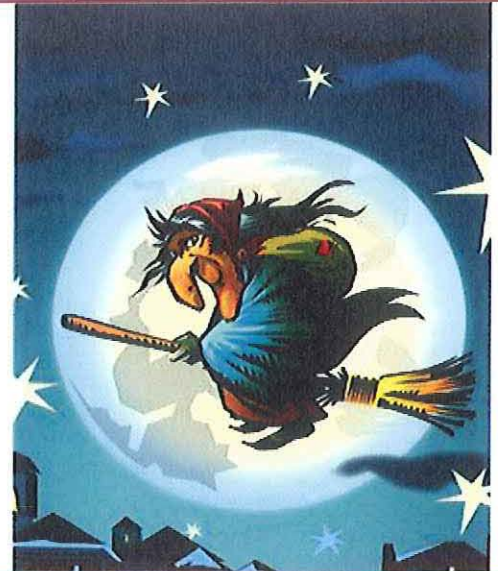
P.S.

Breakfast with Santa (that would be me) will be that morning at 8 a.m. at the Ruritan Building! Come eat pancakes and get a photo with me. Take home a free children's book to remember our fun morning.





HALLOWEEN Safety Tips



TRICK OR TREAT: OCTOBER 31ST, 2013 5:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

FOR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 13

To help ensure this Halloween is a safe and happy holiday for you and your family

Costume Suggestions:

- Keep costumes short to prevent trips, falls and other bumps in the night.
- Wear light or bright colored costumes and use light reflective tape.
- Children shouldn't wear a mask; it restricts vision. If a mask must be worn, cut large eye holes. Make-up is much safer than a mask because it doesn't obstruct vision.
- Toy weapons, wands, brooms, etc. should be made of paper or cardboard; they are safer than plastic, wood or metal.
- Put the child's name, address and phone number on the inside of their costume in case of an accident or lost child.

Trick or Treat Safely:

- Eat a full meal prior to going out so your child won't be tempted to eat treats before they can be properly checked out. Tell your children not to eat treats until you have checked them out.
- Plan your child's route and visit only homes in your neighborhood that are well lighted.
- Remind them not to take short cuts through backyards, alleys or playing fields.
- Travel in a group or with an adult. Do not let children go alone.
- Carry a flashlight or glow stick.
- Cross streets at corners, never from between two vehicles.
- Walk on the sidewalk or facing traffic if there are no sidewalks.
- Watch for cars driving into or backing out of driveways.

Treats -- Give Them A Safety Check:

- Check for holes or loose wrappers, pour powdered candy into a container and look for discoloration or lumps.
- Don't eat opened candy, fruit, etc., unless you know the person it came from.
- Wash fruit, and then cut it into bite-size pieces.

TOWN OF WINDSOR
P.O. BOX 307
WINDSOR, VA 23487



Town Council Members:

Mayor Carita J. Richardson

J. Clint Bryant

N. Macon Edwards, III

Patty Flemming

Wesley F. Garris

Durwood V. Scott

Greg Willis

The Windsor Town Council conducts its regular meetings @ 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month.

The Planning Commission conducts its regular meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month.

The EDA conducts its regular meetings on an as needed basis.

Holiday Closings

Columbus Day - Monday, October 14th

Veteran's Day - Monday, November 11h

Thanksgiving Holiday - Wednesday, November 27th at noon thru Friday, Nov 29th

Christmas Holiday - Tuesday, December 24th and Wednesday, December 25th

We publish and distribute the newsletter by mail or e-mail to Windsor Town residents and customers of the Windsor water system quarterly. If you do not receive the newsletter and would like to, please call the Town Office or stop by to see us. We are open Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

You should report after hour emergencies to the Isle of Wight Communications Center at 357-2151, and they will contact the appropriate Town staff.

Town Hall Phone: 757-242-4288

Town Hall Fax: 757-242-9039

E-mail: windsor@windsor-va.gov

For More Information About our Town

Please visit our Web Site at:

www.windsor-va.gov